

107 W. MONUMENT STREET

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

BALTIMORE CITY, MD.

HAB.S. NO. MD. 1.

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*Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings*

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE MATTER

DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

JOHN H. SCARFF, DISTRICT OFFICER

1012 KEYSER BLDG., BALTIMORE, MD.

107 West Monument Street  
Baltimore, Maryland.

OWNER: Mr. Robert Hicks, 106 W. Madison  
Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

DATE OF ERECTION: about 1836

ARCHITECT: unknown

BUILDER: unknown

PRESENT CONDITION: Since alterations to a modern  
apartment house in 1936, in  
excellent condition.

NUMBER OF STORIES: At present three and one-half,  
basement and cellar.

MATERIALS OF CONSTRUCTION: Brick, with stone founda-  
tion, in general--wood  
interior construction.

OTHER EXISTING RECORDS: Painting in Maryland His-  
torical Society made dur-  
ing the Mexican War.  
Land Record Office.

107 West Monument Street  
Baltimore, Maryland.

HISTORICAL DATA:

The land upon which this house is built is a part of the original Lunn's Lot, a tract of about 350 acres taken up in 1672 by a man named Lunn and sold by him in 1688 to George Eager. It passed from Eager by inheritance to his sister, Ruth, who was the ~~mother~~ mother of the Revolutionary hero, Col. John Eager Howard. The Howards built for themselves the house known as "Belvedere" on this property. As the city encroached, they sold off, over a period of years, almost the entire tract as building lots for the growing city. They gave the land upon which the first monument to George Washington was started in 1815 and in the immediate neighborhood, which was known as Howard's Wood, laid out streets and sold the adjacent properties for residences to the well-to-do citizens of the young and prosperous city. After the death of Col. John Eager Howard, this particular lot passed, in the division of the estate by act of the assembly December 1832, to his daughter, Mrs. William George Read, and in June 27, 1836 was purchased by George Copeland Morton for \$25,000.

George Copeland Morton was prominent in Baltimore Society of the time. He was educated in France and served as French Vice-Consul in Baltimore. He was half brother to Mrs. Jerome Bonaparte the daughter in law of Betsy Patterson, who married Napoleon's brother, Jerome. He married Miss Mary Ann Packwood of New Orleans and brought her to the Monument Street house as his bride. His descendants speak today of his large expenditures and of his sending to France for furniture and decorations for his new house. In those days the property extended by gardens to Park Ave, as is shown by the painting now hanging in the Maryland Historical Society, and it is said the house was the first built in this section of Monument Street, and the third within the "Shadow of the Monument"

In October 1843, the property was sold to Samuel G. Wyman for \$19149.50 and in May 1864, it was divided. The house with fifty foot frontage was sold to Caroline S. Dulin for \$45,000 and the vacant land of the garden with an 100 ft. frontage in Monument Street to other purchasers. Mrs. Dulin's husband was a doctor who it is presumed added the side entrance to his basement offices. The property passed by inheritance to Mr. and Mrs. Dulin's daughter, Mrs. J. Winfield Henry who sold it in 1935 to Mr. Robert Hicks for \$10,000.

Mr. Hicks in 1936 converted the house into a multiple dwelling and made many changes including an additional story in the height.

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HISTORICAL DATA:

At that time it ceased to have much architectural interest except as a relic. It is thought that prior to the present extensive alterations, changes were made at two different times. First the semi-circular bay was added on the south side, and later the old wrought iron balconies, one in each of the lower north windows, gave way to the two long cast iron balconies. All the sash on Monument Street were altered, as illustrated in the photographs.

The small wrought iron balconies drawn were taken from contemporary houses (of very similar Ionic design) around the corner on Cathedral Street. At the time the HABS started their work on this house the interior was completely gone and the alterations to the exterior was starting. These photographs of the building taken at the start of the work reconstruction, were presented to the HABS by the present owner.

*John H. K. K. K.*

*Reviewed July 8<sup>th</sup> '36, T.T.W.*